



Voluntary Voting System Guidelines (VVSG) Version 2.0

Purpose, Structure, and Process

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VVSG 2.0

The Purpose



The Structure

VVSG 2.0

Principles

- 15 Principles

Guidelines

- 53 Guidelines

VVSG 2.0 Requirement & Test Assertions Document

Requirements

Test
Assertions



NASED VVSG Working Group - 2015

The purpose of the testing and certification of voting systems, including the development of the corresponding requirements to be tested, is as follows:

- To enable, not obstruct or impede, innovation and needed response to changing statutes, rules, or jurisdictional and voters' needs.
- To provide deployable systems and system modifications in a timely manner based on generally recognized elections calendars and schedules.



EAC Future VVSG Working Group - 2015

The purpose and scope of the VVSG must be defined and confirmed.

- A fundamental purposes of the VVSG is to determine policy objectives the guidelines are trying to achieve and to define and describe a voting system.

The VVSG requirements should be performance based and technology neutral.

- Technology neutral statements have longer lives and in order to keep a future VVSG document “evergreen” detailed description of any technology should be excluded.
- The most promising avenue for pursuing such a document would be to develop high level (performance based) standard and have details contained in some lower level document that can more easily change and adapt as technology changes.

The VVSG should allow maximum flexibility to incorporate new/revised requirements including those from other Standards setting bodies.



Board of Advisors Resolution – 2016

At the May 4-5, 2016 Meeting the Board of Advisors adopted a resolution on the format of the VVSG to only be the Principles and Guidelines.

“Be it resolved that the Board of Advisors supports the proposed format of the next iteration of VVSG to adopt broad principles and guidelines. Subsequent system requirements and test scripts developed for these guidelines would not be subject to mandatory federal regulatory review but would be submitted to the Board of Advisors for review and recommendation.”



Standards Board Motions – 2016

Standards Board unanimously moved to adopt the NASED principles to be used as the guiding principles to develop the TGDC project charter

Standards Board unanimously moved to adopt the proposed structure:

- Principles are high-level system design goals.
- Guidelines provide broad system design details primarily for election officials.
- Requirements = more technical details for design and development by vendors and advocacy groups
- Test assertions with technical specifications suitable for testing by test labs because the requirements have to be testable.



Standards Board Motions – 2017

The VVSG Committee unanimously determined that the Standards Board should adopt the 17 Functions as the Scope of the VVSG 2.0.

- Standards Board then voted unanimously to move the recommendation.

Recommendation of the VVSG Committee to recommend the VVSG 2.0 Principles and Guidelines document be a guideline for the TGDC going forward.

- Standards Board then voted unanimously to move the recommendation.



TGDC Motion and Resolution - 2017

February Meeting

- The Committee unanimously voted to adopt the Scope of the VVSG 2.0 to allow the Public Working Groups, NIST and EAC to write the Principles and Guidelines to the Scope.

September Meeting

- The Committee unanimously voted for approval of the draft VVSG 2.0 Principles and Guidelines
- Ensuring Equal Consideration of Accessibility and Security:
“Be it resolved that, if a voting system utilizes a paper record to satisfy auditability principles, and associated guidelines, the voting system must also provide mechanism(s) that enable voters with disabilities to mark their ballot and to verify and cast their printed vote selections privately and independently.”



VVSG 2.0

The Process



Public Working Groups/ TGDC

VVSG 2.0
Principles and
Guidelines

30 Day Public Comment

VVSG 2.0
TGDC Recommendation

Public Hearing

Standards Board/Board
of Advisors Review and
Comment

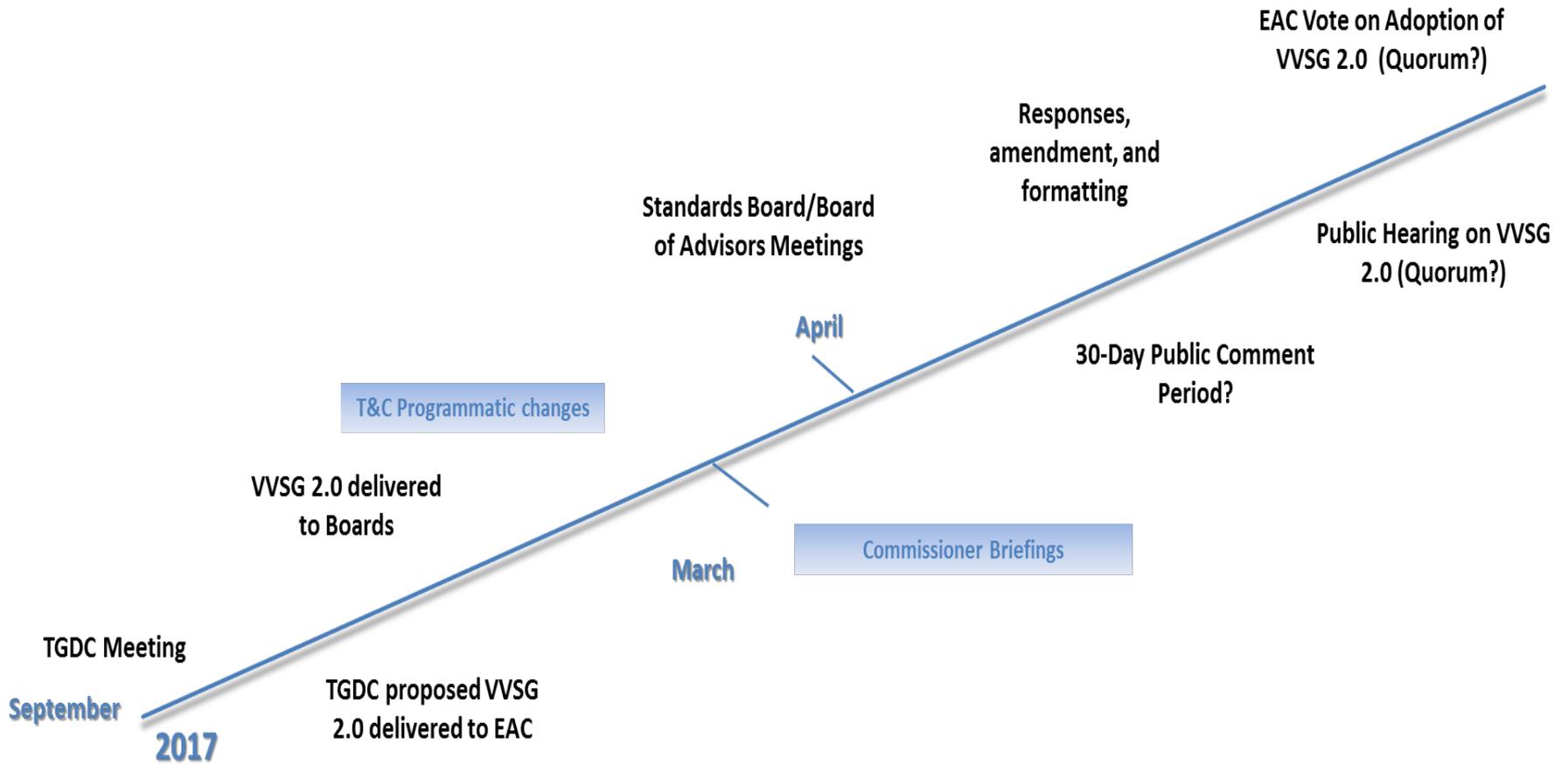
EAC Exec. Director

Commissioner Vote

VVSG 2.0



VVSG 2.0 Timeline





VVSG 1.0 and VVSG 1.1 (Background)

VVSG 1.0 adopted in 2005

- Expired on July 5, 2017 (Modifications to VVSG 1.0 certified systems ongoing and permissible into the foreseeable future.

VVSG 1.1 adopted in 2016

- Were active immediately
- Required 18 months later (as of July 6, 2017)
- Any *new* system applying for certification must be tested to VVSG 1.1



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